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New York people at the present time, when the undertaking has been determined upon of endeavouring to provide for the retention of the interior traffic along the natural eastern gateway.

“The Prairie Country” is treated in Chapter V, and “Cotton, Rice, and Corn” in Chapter VI. The latter chapter gives a strong picture of the geographic reasons for believing in a great future for the South, as well as a clear, striking statement of her past as guided by geographic influences. The remaining chapters, each worthy of special comment, bear the following titles: “The Civil War,” “Where Little Rain Falls,” “Mountain, Mine, and Forest,” “From the Golden Gate to Puget Sound,” “Geography and American Destiny,” and “Government Study of our Domain.” The book is illustrated by 72 well-selected pictures, reproduced as half tones, and 16 maps.

While the book aims primarily to show the influence of geographic conditions on the development of a great nation, Professor Brigham again and again makes it clear that he is not so blinded by his own special interest as to think that geographic influences *control*. Yet he falls into the use of the phrase “geographic controls,” which comes so easily to some physiographers.

The appearance of Professor Brigham’s book is an important event, marking as it does the first organized excursion into this great borderland by an American physiographer. It cannot but have an influence of importance in other directions than in leading the way. It will bring before the geographer a statement of many points of relation of his science to history; and the historian it will remind of what is sometimes overlooked—that there are many geographic factors of value in human development. Teachers in all lines of geography will find the book of value in their work, and so, also, ought the teacher of history. Moreover, the book will be read by many for the mere pleasure of reading a delightfully-written text on a theme of general interest, presented from a new standpoint.

R. S. T.

*L’Architecture du Sol de la France*, by Commander O. Barré. pp. III and 393, with 189 figures and plates. Paris, Armand Colin, 1903.

*L’Architecture du Sol de la France* is one of the best and most detailed studies of the geomorphology of a large area that has yet appeared. The author has made use of all the modern principles of geomorphology and has applied these principles to a careful and comprehensive study of the development of France. The state-

ments of the text are illustrated by many maps, sections, and perspective drawings, which give a vividness and clearness to the exposition such as the text alone could not give.

The introduction is devoted largely to a summary of the processes of continental growth and development, so familiar to all who have followed the work of Davis, Gilbert, Hayes, de Margerie, and others within the last decade and a half. Following these general matters the author has inserted a brief summary of the geographical history of Europe, in which he has incorporated a number of maps showing the outline and extent of the continent during the several geological periods. He further divides the existing highlands of Europe into two groups according to whether their general form is tabular or folded. In the former group he places the plateau of Bohemia, the Central Plateau of France, the Vosges, the Ardennes, and the highland of Central Germany; in the latter the Pyrenees, the Alps, the Jura, the Apennines, the Carpathians, and the Balkans. Thus the larger part of France may be considered as belonging in the first group, which includes the region of Aquitania and the Anglo-Parisian area. This latter area is seen in France in the so-called Paris Basin, a term which the author does not approve, because it does not give proper emphasis to the extent of the geographical conditions existing during the period when the rocks now seen about Paris were deposited.

The physical divisions of France in which there has been a unity of genetic development are the North and Northwest, north of Paris and the lower Seine; the Northeast, from Paris to the Rhine and including the upper Saône; the East and Southeast, including the Alps and the Rhone; the South and Southwest, including the Pyrenees and Aquitania; the West, that is, Brittany; the Central Plateau and the coastal area.

In the detailed treatment of each division the author considers first the geological and geographical history in a broad way, and then takes up the detailed treatment of the several subdivisions. In all his work we find evidence of a deep and personal knowledge not only of the surface features of France but of the geological history and the contributions of others to the interpretation of this classic region. The effects of structure upon form and drainage have been worked out carefully, and the relations between diverse regions have been emphasized through a presentation of the earlier geographic conditions attested by a study of the origin of sediments and of the existence of peneplains revealed by the removal of covers laid down in the earlier epochs. Although the author

follows carefully the evidences of various cycles of erosion in the different regions, he does not limit himself to the larger generalizations, but includes a detailed consideration of the history of ancient areas of erosion and deposition, so that the conditions of the present are viewed in the light of the detailed history of the past. The evidences of buried peneplains, the effects of faulting, folding and thrust-faulting upon the ancient land forms, are constantly brought out, and it is clearly shown how much the tectonic history contributes to the understanding of the present surface forms.

The reader of the volume cannot but be impressed with the large contributions to the science which have been made by American geographers. The effects of faulting and folding upon ancient land forms, which have been emphasized by Hayes and Campbell in their study of the Southern Appalachians, by Davis in his classic papers of the Triassic Area of the Connecticut Valley, and by Hobbs in his papers on Southwestern New England, are here emphasized with even a greater detail.

The volume is one of the most helpful contributions to regional morphology at present available, and should receive a warm welcome in America. The descriptions given are clear, concise, and convincing, and the work as a whole is most satisfactory, both scientifically and from the standpoint of good book-making.

R. E. D.

*Report on the Collections of Natural History Made in the Antarctic Regions during the Voyage of the "Southern Cross."* London, Published by order of the Trustees of the British Museum, 1902. pp. 344, 53 plates and numerous text-figures.

This volume is among the first fruits of systematic expeditions into the Antarctic regions. It comprises a series of reports by no less than twenty-four specialists on the animals, plants, and minerals collected during the voyage of the *Southern Cross*. As we are told in the preface by Prof. E. Ray Lankester, Director of the British Museum, the *Southern Cross* was fitted out by Sir George Newnes in 1898 to sail for Victoria Land. It was shut up in the ice-pack for forty days, during which time the young naturalist of the expedition, Mr. Nicolai Hansen, made large collections of birds and seals. In October, 1899, Mr. Hansen died. His notes were lost, and his collections suffered considerably from neglect on the part of the surviving crew. Under the circumstances, it is rather surprising that the various specialists have been so successful in working up the material.